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Fratrick, Johnson

Two named to School Board

By Bill Sherrod

The Appomattox County Board of Supervisors altered the structure of the county school board, re-appointed Dr. A. A. Fratrick, and appointed newcomer Henrietta P. Johnson to the school board in actions Friday.

Johnson, a retiring school teacher, is the first black ever appointed to the Appomattox County School Board.

Johnson, Fratrick and John T. "Plicky" Williams were the three nominees being considered for the school board seat occupied by Fratrick, which expires July 1.

Johnson, Fratrick and Williams were three of five persons who had orignially qualified for consideration as potential school board members. The field had been narrowed to three by the Board of Supervisors.

At the Supervisors' meeting, Friday, the board voted to add one at-large seat to the school board, bringing the total board membership to five. The at-large seat added at Friday's meeting will be rotated every eight years from district to district.

In addition, the Supervisors voted that the existing at-large seat be rotated in like manner every eight years, but both at-large seats will not be in the same district, as of July 1, 1984.

An additional alternation to the school board's structure which was approved Friday is that no school board member can serve more than two consecutive four-year terms, effective immediately.

The terms of members currently serving on the board will be counted as the first of the two terms when current terms expire under the new school board structure.

Johnson was appointed as the member at large representing the Stonewall District. Fratrick was re-appointed as the regular board member representing the Stonewall District.

Johnson, an Appomattox native with 42 years in education, including 41 here in Appomattox, thanked the Board of Supervisors "for considering me as a nominee, and the public in general for their support."

Having taught kindergarten at Appomattox Primary School for the last nine years, Johnson siad she has "enjoyed the years of experience in Appomattox County." She added that she is "looking forward to working with the school board."

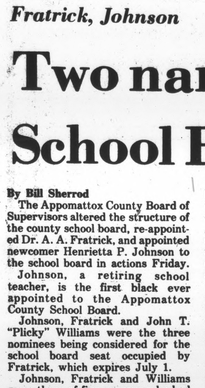
Fratrick, a veteran of the school board, said that he feels the Supervisors' move toward revising the school board's structure is a "wise and progressive step." He adds that Mrs. Johnson will be "an asset to the county. I am looking forward to working with her."

Fratrick noted that he believes Appomattox has "a dedicated and enlightened school board, and an excellent school administration, particularly our school administrator, whom I consider to be one of the best in the area."

Franklin Vaughan, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, said that both Johnson and Fratrick received a great deal of support in the public hearing regarding the three school board nominees held last Wednesday at the County Court House.

He added that Dr. Fratrick's experience on the school board and Mrs. Johnson's experience in the school system qualify them both for seats on the school board.

Vaughan also expressed his thanks to the people of Appomattox for their interest in the school board selection procedure, as expressed through attendance at the public hearing Wednesday night. "We appreciate the fact that the people handled themselves in a fine spirit at the hearing," Vaughan noted.



Henrietta P. Johnson

Dr. A. A. Fratrick

STUDENTS AT THE APPOMATTOX Primary School were in high spirits as they celebrated the end of the school year with Field Day Activities. Included in the fun-filled day were such games as Tug Of War, Sack Race, Relay Race, and other fun-filled things. No doubt about it, they celebrated with gusto!! (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Says local veterinarian

Rabies threat is possible here

By Frances H. Paulette

Rabies, an ugly business. So ugly, in fact, we tend to push any thought of rabid animals out of our minds. After all, it has not been a problem in this area. But, it could be.

"I was not aware until recently that there were as many cases of rabid animals," commented William (Bill) M. Burger, Jr. local veterinarian.

"While it isn't a problem here in Central Virginia now, we definitely need to be aware of what is going on in other areas of the state and we need to warn our children of the danger should they come in contact with a rabid animal," he continued.

"Rabies is a disease of which there is no cure, and death from rabies is horrible," added Burger.

Changes in behavior patterns are one of the first signs of rabies in an animal, according to Burger. The lovable, friendly, family dog may suddenly become irritable, restless and may even bite family members.

Wild animals, such as the raccoon, usually sleeping during the day and wandering at night, may begin wandering around during the day, seemingly unafraid of humans.

Any wild animal who suddenly becomes friendly and docile is possibly a rabid animal.

The last reported case of rabies in this area was in 1974 in the Forest Community near Lynchburg.

Northern Virginia is plagued by an increasing number of rabid raccoons. Just recently a rabid raccoon was found wandering around the Falls Church area during the middle of the day, a time when a healthy, normal, raccoon would be sleeping.

It is believed that infected raccoons have been shipped into Northern Virginia from other areas for hunting. Since the raccoon feeds and travels along streams, the possibility of rabies spreading to this area does exist.

"I believe it is only a matter of time before it happens here," said Burger.

"We've never had a case in this area," continued Burger, "and we don't want to alarm area residents unnecessarily but we do want to make citizens aware of what is going on."

"Keep your domesticated animals vaccinated before the disease gets in this area," cautioned Burger.

"A lot of people do not realize that all animals vaccinated under age 12 months are protected for only one year. After that time, the Virginia Department of Health recommends a booster shot which is good for three years," said Burger.

"Cats should be vaccinated against rabies," said Mrs. Johanna Harris, Director of the Central Virginia Health Department. "A rabid cat bite is more serious than a rabid dog bite, it goes deeper and the virus gets to the nerve endings. A cat's saliva is literally 'loaded with the virus."

For further information on rabies, precautionary measures, or action to be taken in the event of contact with an animal that is suspected of having rabies, contact the Appomattox County Department of Health.

From Armstrong Furniture

Town Council okays additional wastewater in sewer system

By Bill Sherrod

The Appomattox Mayor and Council voted Monday night to allow Armstrong Furniture to dispose of limited amounts of wastewater in the town sewer system.

Approval in contingent on the furniture company's following guidelines set forth by the state Health Department while disposing the wastewater.

Zane Pinckey, speaking on behalf of Armstrong, told the Mayor and Council that the water which will be put into the sewer system will come from a filter system in the plant. It will essentially be salt water, according to Pinckey. He noted that the material will amount to "a maximum of four barrels, or 200 gallons, per week." He added that the amount would probably average closer to two or three barrels per week.

Council also voted to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation regarding a conditional-use permit request from Paul Nash. Nash had asked permission to install eight apartment units in a house on Church Street. The Planning Commission, however, recommended that the number of apartment units allowed in the conditional use permit be reduced to three. Councilmen cited possible traffic congestion as one of the main reasons for reducing the number of units allowed.

The Councilmen also voted to leave the town's trash and limb removal policy as it currently stands. Council recently altered the policy, which had provided for trash and limb removal at any time of the year, by request. The new policy allows trash and limb removal three times a year; during the annual spring clean-up week, a week in the autumn, and a week at the first of each year.

Council also heard a report from Town Manager Bill Britton, who noted that recent correspondence from the federal Environmental Protection Agency indicates a lessening of sewer effluent quality requirements for the town wastewater disposal system.

MS support group to meet

The Multiple Sclerosis Support Group, individuals who have MS, family and friends, will meet on June 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial United Methodist Church, according to William R. Britton, spokesman for the group.

Guests speakers for the evening will be a local physician and a representative from the Multiple Sclerosis Society in Charlottesville.

Father Darkleaf

By Calvin Robinson

Greetings from Martha Street. Flag Day and coming up is Father's Day. And I believe June 21 is the longest day of the year. Nice week-end behind us and most everyone stayed outdoors as much as possible. Ground wet from recent rains, so all I could do, gardenwise, was walk around the fringe and guess what's coming up over in that corner. Lots of daylilies and all around town magnolia blooms attract attention. And reports kept coming in of huge crowds at coastal resort areas. It was Harborfest Days in Norfolk and the guess was that some 700,000 people were in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area during the week-end. Wow. Harborfest features the gathering of tall sailing ships and other harbor craft. All on the spacious Elizabeth River. Locally, it was the first week-end after school closing, and graduation celebration was accorded priority.

Miss seeing the school buses every morning and afternoon and there is a lot of difference in traffic volume eight to nine a.m. and three to four p.m. Yard sales are popular this time of year and I saw a roof-raising. All are signs of a friendly community. Ah yes, and Saturday I was standing in my front yard when a lone horseman came through. I made way and saluted. And maybe I should add in the information that Martha Street is labeled as Road 1007. Streets as well as roads have numbers in addition to names, but more people use the names instead of numbers.

All in one day. I found another fourleaf clover in my back lawn. That is supposed to be good luck. Then when I came to the front door there sat a black cat and some call that a sign of bad luck. Maybe it is all true, for there is some good and some bad every day. And there are signs of life in the fig bush.

* * *

According to Flower and Garden magazine, the 1983 Rose of the Year is a Hybrid Tea named Sweet Surrender. A lovely pink.

* * *

Dates June 16, 9th annual Chicken Festival at Crewe. Alexandria, Father's Day feature June 19, with family kite making and flying, followed by picnic. June 19 and 20, Antique Fly-In Air Show at Fredericksburg. So much to see and do in Historic Virginia.

* * *

There are many reasons why people stop in Appomattox. I happened to be at the local laundromat recently when a car from Missouri pulled in soon as they saw the laundromat sign And so did a van from Texas.

* * *

Hurrah. Came home one evening to find that a friend with a bush-hog had cleared off my back lot.

* * *

Appomattox has a few regular joggers. But there are many more walkers. The walkers often have set distances and hours. The point is: enjoy the great out-of-doors all you can. Heavens to Betsy, I even enjoy pushing the lawnmower. Thanks for reading and seeya around.

By Appomattox Assembly

Labor pool established

The Appomattox County Assembly has established a labor pool designed to assist both those persons looking for employment as well as to provide a source of ready help for employers.

The Assembly will set up and maintain two files: 1-for those desiring work; and 2-for employers.

Those wishing our assistance in obtaining work, or for employers (companies or individuals) in need of help send your requests to:
The Appomattox County Assembly, Labor Pool, P. O. Box 2169, Appomattox, Va. 24522 or call, 352-8967 (9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.), 352-2284 (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.).

Applicants for work should supply as a minimum: Name, age, sex, weight; available hours as well as telephone number. Special skills, if any, should be stated for better placement.

Companies or individuals requiring ready help should state nature and duration of work. Supply phone number also.

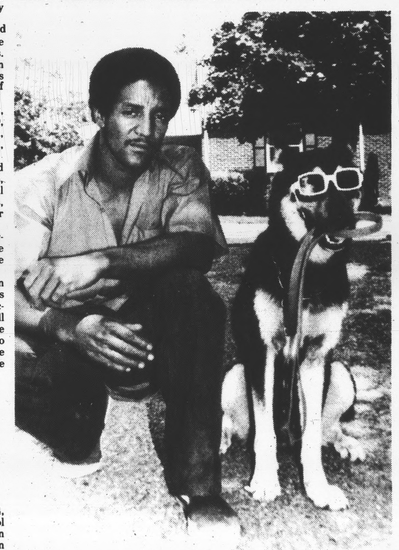
The Assembly will act only as an intermediary contact, and assumes no responsibility beyond introducing the employee and employer. All contacts from the Assembly will be by telephone and, since there is no charge for this service, calls outside the 352- or 248- exchanges must be borne by the customer.

The Assembly recognizes that many persons need help/work (lawn mowing, painting, repairs, farmwork, housework, etc.) without ready access to a labor pool. Whatever your need in the labor market, contact us. We will serve you as best we can.

Britton named to committee

At a special meeting on May 24, the State Air Pollution Control Board named William (Bill) Britton to the Central Virginia Air Pollution Control Committee as a representative from the County of Appomattox.

"This letter constitutes official notification of your appointment," stated a letter from W. R. Meyer, Executive Director. "We are indeed glad that you have agreed to serve in this capacity."



IF YOU THOUGHT YOU SAW A DOG WALKING AROUND TOWN on Monday of this week wearing sunglasses . . . don't be upset, your eyes are not deceiving you; you did see it, and he does wear them! Black Jack, the eight month old German Shepherd dog belonging to C. D. Christian of Appomattox walks about town wearing sunglasses as comfortably as any human. In addition to wearing sunglasses and doing other unusual things, Black Jack has been trained by Christian to attack on command from his master. (Photo by Allen Austin.)

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